

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 OFA-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 INR-07 L-03 NSF-02

NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-15 OES-05 SS-15 SP-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECE, SENV

SUBJECT: ECE - CHEMICAL INDUSTRY COMMITTEE: FLUOROCARBON
TASK FORCE

PASS FOLLOWING TO VEITH OF ECE SECRETARIAT AS DRAFT PROPOSAL
FOR SECRETARIAT COMMUNICATION TO MEMBER COUNTRIES ON SUBJECT
TASK FORCE:

1. AT THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE ECE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY
COMMITTEE, OCTOBER 15-17, UNDER THE SUBJECT OF PROSPECTIVE
NEW PROJECTS, THE NATURE OF THE FLUOROCARBON-OZONE
DEPLETION PROBLEM WAS DESCRIBED BY THE U.S. DELEGATE ALONG
WITH A SUMMARY OF THE WORK UNDERWAY IN THE U.S. ON THIS
PROBLEM AND THAT UNDERWAY WITHIN THE OECD. HE FURTHER
CITED THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON WORLDWIDE
FLUOROCARBON PRODUCTION, USE AND RESEARCH TO IMPROVE
KNOWLEDGE ON THE SCOPE AND MAGNITUDE OF THE PROBLEM, TO
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IDENTIFY FUTURE RESEARCH PRIORITIES, AND TO ASSESS THE

ECONOMIC INPUT OF POSSIBLE REGULATORY ACTIONS.

2. IT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY PROPOSED THAT THE CHEMICAL COMMITTEE UNDERTAKE AS A HIGH PRIORITY PROJECT THE DEVELOPMENT OF MEANINGFUL INFORMATION ON THE PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION, INTERNATIONAL TRADE, AND END USES OF FLUOROCARBONS IN EACH MEMBER NATION. HOWEVER, THE SECRETARIAT INDICATED THAT IT WAS NOT IN A POSITION AT THIS TIME TO MANAGE AN ADDITIONAL HIGH PRIORITY PROJECT. A COUNTER-PROPOSAL WAS THEN MADE THAT A WORK PROGRAM BE CONDUCTED THROUGH A SPECIAL TASK FORCE, WITH THE SECRETARIAT HANDLING REPRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNICATIONS. RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A PROGRAM AND FOR THE ANALYSIS OF INFORMATIONAL INPUTS WOULD RESIDE WITH THE TASK FORCE.

3. THE PURPOSE OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS TO REQUEST EACH OF THE DELEGATIONS TO RESPOND TO THE SECRETARIAT AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE, AND BY FEBRUARY 15, 1976 AT THE LATEST, INDICATING:

A. WHETHER THEY SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF A SPECIAL TASK FORCE ON FLUOROCARBONS TO BE ESTABLISHED UNDER THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY COMMITTEE;

B. WHETHER THEY ARE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN A TASK FORCE OR AD HOC SPECIAL GROUP OF EXPERTS (1) TO DETERMINE EXACTLY WHAT INFORMATION SHOULD BE DEVELOPED, (2) TO PREPARE A QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SUCH SUBMISSIONS AND (3) TO SERVE AS A GROUP RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSEMBLING AND ANALYSING THE DATA SUBMITTED;

C. WHETHER THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO SERVE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE TASK FORCE;

D. WHETHER THEY WILL BE WILLING TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REQUESTED BY WAY OF A QUESTIONNAIRE CONCERNING THE FLUOROCARBON SITUATION IN THEIR COUNTRY, WHICH MIGHT INCLUDE INFORMATION ON PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION, END USES, INTERNATIONAL TRADE, RESEARCH AND STUDIES PLANNED OR IN PROGRESS, AND FUTURE NEEDS.

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4. THE SECRETARIAT IS PREPARED TO WORK WITH THE TASK FORCE IN PROVIDING MEETING FACILITIES FOR TASK FORCE WORK SESSIONS IN GENEVA, BUT CANNOT ARRANGE FOR SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT ENGLISH BE CONSIDERED AS THE WORKING LANGUAGE FOR THE TASK FORCE. THE SECRETARIAT IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE TRANSLATION OF ANY COMMUNICATIONS, INSTRUCTIONS, AND QUESTIONNAIRES WHICH

ARE TO BE SENT TO THE DELEGATIONS. ROBINSON

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